

Short term volunteering GRUNDTVIG Learning Partnership – “European volunteers in parks”

Placement for volunteers

HOST

Name of protected area or organisation:

Po Delta Regional Park Emilia Romagna

Person in charge – name of volunteer coordinator/tutor:

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VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Duration of volunteer placement: 1 week

Dates: between 2009/07/01 and 2009/07/31

Arrival/departure point: Ferrara or Ravenna railway station

Tasks the volunteer will undertake:

The colony of Greater Flamingos in the Comacchio former salt-pans (Po Delta Natural Park) has been selected for carrying out yearly ringing operations since the first year it produced chicks (2000). Flamingo ringing is a team-work requiring many experienced people who quickly mark the birds and take measurements. All chicks are again free within one hour since the corral gate had been shut. The volunteer will be involved during the whole operations:

- the days before volunteer will help setting all the equipments needed (mounting the corral and the leading fences);
- the operational day help in the beating operation on the flamingo nursery (colony of Comacchio salt-pans); every time the birds are caught also 2-3 operators are ‘trapped’ too; they stay with the chicks all the time to keep them quietly circling and to avoid they crowd dishomogeneously. Once the ringers are ready, they hand a chick at a time to the people outside the fence.
- the days after volunteer will help re-setting and clean up the area.

During the other routine days volunteer will have to work closely with staff of the park and local volunteers in the daily monitoring activities and environmental education.

Working together with other foreigners: yes, the ringing operation normally involves more than 100 volunteers coming from all parts of Italy, and normally a couple of people from abroad.

Approx. working time per day: 7-8 hours ringing operations (3 days), 5-6 hours routine work (3 days)

Knowledge, skills, language skills, interests required:

Predisposition to work in staff, passion in ornithology, knowledge of English (knowledge of Italian would be better in order to interact with more people and use the opportunity to know and learn more about the Po Delta Park).

Equipment required from volunteers: Comfortable outdoor clothes for wetlands, binocular, boots

ACCOMMODATION AND BOARD

Location of accommodation: Camping Spina (www.campingspina.it/) or B&B in Comacchio

Single-bed room: yes

Double-bed room: yes

Shared bath room: yes/no

Cooking possibilities: yes/no

Possibility to meet special dietary requirements:

Vegetarian food: yes

Vegan food: yes

Daily rates for food according to regional conditions (Euro/day, paid by sending country): Average 35 €

Accommodation costs (Euro/day, paid by sending country): Average 65 €

OTHER COMMENTS: The given information may be subject to changes.